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**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

December 15, 2000

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 789-5506
INTERNET ADDRESS:
RMILLIEN@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Box: Missing Parts



Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/641,394; Filed: August 18, 2000
For: **A Method, System and Computer Program
Product for Valuating Natural Gas Contracts
Using Weather-Based Metrics**
Inventors: MACHADO *et al.*
Our Ref: 1481.0240000/MQL/RVM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17) (*in duplicate*);
2. Copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Non-Provisional Application Filed Under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b);
3. Original Declaration executed by the inventors;
4. Original Power of Attorney executed from Assignee;
5. Original Certificate Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b), along with a copy of the Assignment;
6. Our Check No. 29766 in the amount of \$840.00 to cover:
 \$130.00 - Declaration Surcharge;
 \$710.00 - Basic Filing Fee; and
7. One (1) Return Postcard.

Commissioner for Patents
December 15, 2000
Page 2

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Raymond Millien
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,806

RVM:dcw
Enclosures

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/641,394	08/18/2000	Roberto C. Machado JR.	1481.0240000

Sterne Kessler Goldstein & Fox PLLC
Suite 600
1100 New York Avenue
Washington, DC 20005-3934



FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000005478230

Date Mailed: 10/17/2000

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.
Applicant must submit \$ 690 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).
- The oath or declaration is missing.
A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- **The balance due by applicant is \$ 820.**

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

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PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

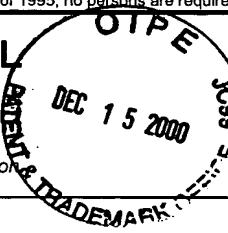
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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 840.00)



Complete if Known

Application Number	09/641,394
Filing Date	August 18, 2000
First Named Inventor	Roberto C. Machado, Jr.
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Group Art Unit	2161
Attorney Docket No.	1481.0240000/MQL/RVM

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)		FEE CALCULATION (continued)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
1. <input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment to: Deposit Account Number 19-0036 Deposit Account Name Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.		3. ADDITIONAL FEES Large Entity Small Entity <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">Fee Code</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">Fee (\$)</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">Fee Code</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 15%;">Fee (\$)</th> <th style="text-align: left; width: 50%;">Fee Description</th> <th style="text-align: right; width: 10%;">Fee paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>105</td><td>130</td><td>205</td><td>65</td><td>Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td><td style="text-align: right;">130.00</td></tr> <tr><td>127</td><td>50</td><td>227</td><td>25</td><td>Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>139</td><td>130</td><td>139</td><td>130</td><td>Non-English specification</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>147</td><td>2,520</td><td>147</td><td>2,520</td><td>For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>112</td><td>920*</td><td>112</td><td>920*</td><td>Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>113</td><td>1,840*</td><td>113</td><td>1,840*</td><td>Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>115</td><td>110</td><td>215</td><td>55</td><td>Extension for reply within first month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>116</td><td>390</td><td>216</td><td>195</td><td>Extension for reply within second month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>117</td><td>890</td><td>217</td><td>445</td><td>Extension for reply within third month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>118</td><td>1,390</td><td>218</td><td>695</td><td>Extension for reply within fourth month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>128</td><td>1,890</td><td>228</td><td>945</td><td>Extension for reply within fifth month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>119</td><td>310</td><td>219</td><td>155</td><td>Notice of Appeal</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>120</td><td>310</td><td>220</td><td>155</td><td>Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>121</td><td>270</td><td>221</td><td>135</td><td>Request for oral hearing</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>138</td><td>1,510</td><td>138</td><td>1,510</td><td>Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>140</td><td>110</td><td>240</td><td>55</td><td>Petition to revive - unavoidable</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>141</td><td>1,240</td><td>241</td><td>620</td><td>Petition to revive - unintentional</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>142</td><td>1,240</td><td>242</td><td>620</td><td>Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>143</td><td>440</td><td>243</td><td>220</td><td>Design issue fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>144</td><td>600</td><td>244</td><td>300</td><td>Plant issue fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>122</td><td>130</td><td>122</td><td>130</td><td>Petitions to the Commissioner</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>123</td><td>130</td><td>123</td><td>130</td><td>Petitions related to provisional applications</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>126</td><td>180</td><td>126</td><td>180</td><td>Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>581</td><td>40</td><td>481</td><td>40</td><td>Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>146</td><td>710</td><td>246</td><td>355</td><td>Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>149</td><td>710</td><td>249</td><td>355</td><td>For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>179</td><td>710</td><td>279</td><td>355</td><td>Request for Continued Examination (RCE)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>169</td><td>900</td><td>169</td><td>900</td><td>Request for expedited examination of a design application</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="5">Other fee (specify):</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="5">Other fee (specify):</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 710.00)</td> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid</td> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">** or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above</td> <td colspan="5" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">SUBMITTED BY</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">Name (Print/Type)</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">Raymond Miller</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">Registration No.</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">43,806</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">Complete (if applicable)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">Signature</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;"></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">Date</td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">12/15/00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee paid	105	130	205	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	130.00	127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet		139	130	139	130	Non-English specification		147	2,520	147	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination		112	920*	112	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action		113	1,840*	113	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action		115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month		116	390	216	195	Extension for reply within second month		117	890	217	445	Extension for reply within third month		118	1,390	218	695	Extension for reply within fourth month		128	1,890	228	945	Extension for reply within fifth month		119	310	219	155	Notice of Appeal		120	310	220	155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal		121	270	221	135	Request for oral hearing		138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding		140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable		141	1,240	241	620	Petition to revive - unintentional		142	1,240	242	620	Utility issue fee (or reissue)		143	440	243	220	Design issue fee		144	600	244	300	Plant issue fee		122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner		123	130	123	130	Petitions related to provisional applications		126	180	126	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt		581	40	481	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)		146	710	246	355	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))		149	710	249	355	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))		179	710	279	355	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)		169	900	169	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application		Other fee (specify):						Other fee (specify):						SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 710.00)		SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00)					*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid		SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00)					** or number previously paid, if greater; 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